

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A prosthetic heart valve testing apparatus is disclosed. The apparatus comprises a test chamber, a slide plate slidably and sealingly coupled to the test chamber, the slide plate having an opening formed therein that is adapted to receive a 5 prosthetic heart valve to be tested in the test chamber, a storage member containing a plurality of prosthetic heart valves to be tested in the test chamber, and a load/unload means for transferring at least one of the heart valves in the storage member between the storage member and the slide plate. A method disclosed herein comprises positioning the storage member in a first position, moving a first heart valve from the 10 storage member in the first position to the test chamber, performing at least one test on the first heart valve in the test chamber, and returning the first heart valve from the test chamber to the storage member. The method further comprises moving the storage member to a second position to position a second of the plurality of heart valves for removal from the storage member, moving the second heart valve from the 15 storage member to the test chamber, performing at least one test on the second heart valve in the test chamber, and returning the second heart valve to the storage member.

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